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## CERTIFIED MAIL 7008 3230 0002 9283 3059

April 7, 2010

Mr. Stephen Hoffman U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (5304P) 1200 Pennsylvania Ave NW Washington, D.C. 20460

RE: Final Assessment Report for Big Rivers Electric Corporation's Coleman facility response.

## Dear Mr. Hoffman:

Big Rivers Electric Corporation (BREC) appreciates the opportunity to provide comments on the Final Assessment Report for the Coleman facility. As directed in your letter dated March 8, 2010 BREC offers the following responses to 4.0 CONCLUSIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS section of the final report:

- 4.1 Acknowledgement of Management Unit Condition.
  Response: BREC will maintain the current proactive maintenance program.
- 4.2 Ash Pond A and Ash Pond C Stability Analyses.
  Response: BREC will hire Associated Engineers to complete the subsurface investigation and the installation of piezometers for Ash Ponds A and C. BREC expects to complete the investigation of Ash Pond A by the end of 2010 and Ash Pond C by the end of 2011.
- 4.3 Ash Pond A and Ash Pond C Hydrologic and Hydraulic Analysis. Response: BREC will incorporate this work with the stability analysis.
- 4.4 Ash Pond A Freeboard. Response: BREC will lower the pond elevation to allow for wave run-up during storm events. It should be noted however, that since the construction of the pond in the early 80's there is no indication that wave run-up during storm events has been an issue.
- 4.5 Ash Pond A Crest Area and Inboard Slope Maintenance.
  Response: BREC will install # 3 rock on the inboard slope areas that are experiencing erosion as well as those areas on the crest access road.

- 4.6 Ash Pond A Instrumentation and Monitoring.
  Response: BREC will hire Associated Engineers as identified in 4.2 to provide the piezometers. BREC will monitor the water levels within the piezometers and track the elevations over time.
- 4.7 Ash Pond A and Ash Pond C Grass Slope Maintenance.
   Response: BREC will continue to maintain and repair the outboard slope areas.
- 4.8 Ash Pond C Heavy Vegetation and Tree Control on the South Dike.
  Response: BREC will remove the heavy vegetation and tress on the south dike.
  BREC expects this to be completed by the end of 2010.
- 4.9 Ash Pond A Rodent Control.Response: BREC will continue the current rodent control measures.
- 4.10 Ash Pond A and Ash Pond C Rock Armament Vegetation Control. Response: BREC periodically removes and or sprays to control vegetation within the rock armament and will continue to do so.

If you have additional questions concerning the responses provided please feel free to contact me at 270-844-6031 or by e-mail at tom.shaw@bigrivers.com.

Sincerely,

Thomas Shaw

Manager Environmental Service Big Rivers Electric Corporation

Thomas L. Show